

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| In re Application of: | Sherman et al   |
| Serial Number:        | 10/783,328  |
| Filing Date:          | February 20, 2004   |
| Art Unit:             | 2171  |
| Examiner:             | Shaw, Peling Andy   |
| For:                  | <b>Highly scalable, fault-tolerant file transport using vector-exchange</b> |

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This paper accompanies a request for continued examination.

Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

Please amend this application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 1 and 9 as set forth below.

Please add claim 18.

A complete claim listing begins on the next page.